

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled).

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented) The mechanical fastening system of claim 20 wherein the loop component is made by stretching the non-woven material in the machine direction so as to neck down in the cross machine direction and then attaching the
5 necked non-woven material directly to the elastic substrate while said substrate is stretched in the machine direction so that the loop component has gathers formed therein upon relaxing of the elastic substrate.

4 - 18. (canceled).

19. (previously presented) A mechanical fastening system for an article, comprising:

a loop component mountable on the article and capable of elastic stretching in at least two directions, said loop
5 component comprising a neck-stretched non-woven material and an elastic substrate, said elastic substrate being elastically stretchable in at least two directions, said non-woven material being attached directly to the elastic substrate; and

a hook component mountable on the article and capable of
10 fastening engagement with the loop component to secure the article in a fastened configuration;

whereby when the hook component is juxtaposed and engaged with at least a portion of the loop component, the loop

component is stretchable during limited movement of the loop
15 component relative to the hook component.

20. (previously presented) The mechanical fastening
system set forth in claim 19 wherein the loop component has a
machine direction and a cross-machine direction, the non-woven
material being necked in the cross-machine direction of the
5 loop component.

21. (withdrawn) The mechanical fastening system set forth
in claim 19 in combination with the article, said article being
for personal wear and comprising an inner layer for contact
with a wearer's skin, at least a portion of the inner layer
5 being liquid permeable, an outer layer in opposed relation with
the inner layer, and an absorbent layer disposed between the
inner layer and the outer layer, the loop component being
formed separate from and ~~attached to~~ mounted on the article.

22. (withdrawn) The combination set forth in claim 21
wherein the loop component is formed separate from and ~~attached~~
~~to~~ mounted on the outer layer of the article.

23. (withdrawn) The combination set forth in claim 21
wherein the article further comprises longitudinally opposite
end regions, the loop component being ~~attached to~~ mounted on
the article generally at one of said end regions and the hook
5 component being ~~attached to~~ mounted on the article generally at
the opposite one of said end regions.

24. (canceled).